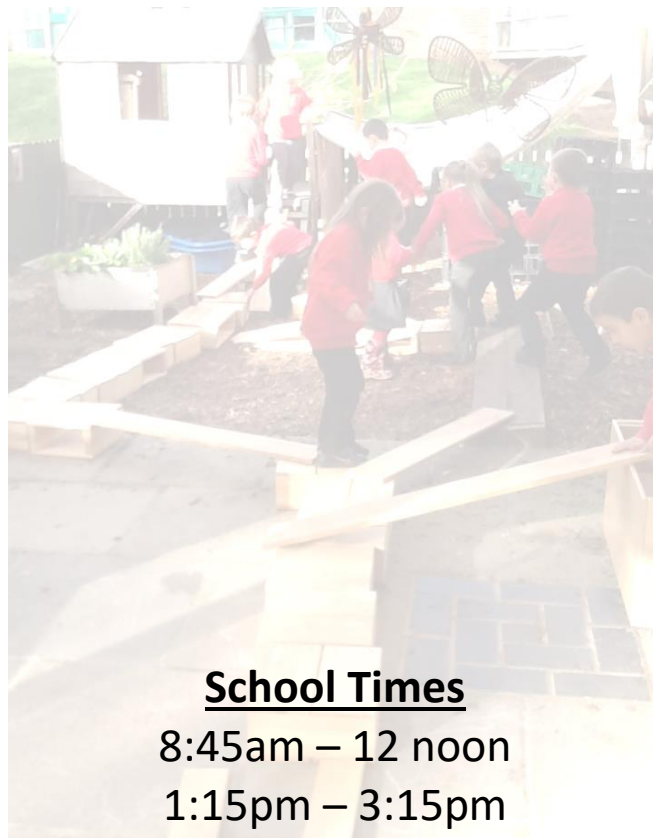




Starting School 2020 -'21

A Guide for Parents and Carers



School Times

8:45am – 12 noon

1:15pm – 3:15pm

Alan Moss Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 4SQ

Telephone: 01509 212021

office@tais.leics.sch.uk

www.tais.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr A. Clark

Welcome to TAIS

We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child. We hope that this booklet will be useful.

The Reception base is managed by a team consisting of Class Teacher[s] and Learning Support staff.

During a typical day, your child will work with several different members of staff.

The EYFS curriculum

When your child begins school he/she will be in the **Early Years Foundation Stage** (EYFS).

The curriculum is divided into **7 areas of learning** and development:

3 'prime' areas

- ❖ Communication and language
- ❖ Physical development
- ❖ Personal, social and emotional development



4 'specific' areas

- ❖ Literacy
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Understanding the world
- ❖ Expressive arts and design



The children work towards achieving '**Early Learning Goals**' within these areas.

*You will be kept informed about your child's progress throughout the year through informal meetings, parent evenings, an end of year report and **Tapestry** (you will find out more).*

Special Needs

When your child has settled into school, it sometimes becomes apparent to the teachers (or you may have things you have noticed) that he/she may need extra support. The teacher will always discuss these issues with you and will offer help and advice, including talking to our school SENCo



Learning through Play

Learning at this stage, is delivered through structured play, helping to develop and introduce new ideas.

Activities are planned with **specific learning aims** and allow children to participate creatively and constructively. They learn to communicate and respond to others, their language develops and their imagination grows.

In this way, your child will be gaining all of the basic skills they will need when they reach Year one.

Home and school as partners

We believe that parents are children's first educators. We will ask you to keep us updated with any exciting news from home, your child's current interests and any developments you observe.



While your children are with us, you will be invited in for assemblies, activity mornings and themed events.

School Uniform - Policy

At Thorpe Acre Infants we are keen to promote a school identity and sense of belonging. Our Parents and Carers are asked to comply with our School Uniform Policy.



Sometimes your child may need a change of clothes during the school day. Please put some spare named pants, socks etc in your child's PE bag to be left in school in case of accidents.

PLEASE MARK ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING AND BELONGINGS WITH HIS/HER NAME SO THAT WE KNOW WHERE TO DELIVER LOST PROPERTY!

School books

'Book bags' are also available from 'Rosebuddies', for your child to carry their reading and library books to and from school. **Please send this bag to school everyday**, it will have a message book inside and will also be used to carry home letters etc.

FOOD and EATING

Lunch times

Children eat together in the hall between 12 and 1o'clock. New pupils begin staying for lunch as they become used to school.

Lunches are freshly prepared in our on-site kitchen. Healthy options are promoted and Children are asked daily about their food choices.



Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

All pupils in Foundation Stage (and Years 1 and 2) are entitled to a daily free school meal. As a school, we encourage every pupil to have a school lunch under the governments' scheme.

IMPORTANT

It is still important, to apply to receive 'Free School Meals' (FSM) should you meet certain criteria, as this enables your son/ daughter to benefit from some additional funding – please see the main School Office.

Packed lunches

You may still opt for a packed lunch. However, parents and carers are asked to make up packed lunches that provide a healthy, balanced meal – please DO NOT include any sweets, chocolate (of any sort), crisps or fizzy drinks.

Snack

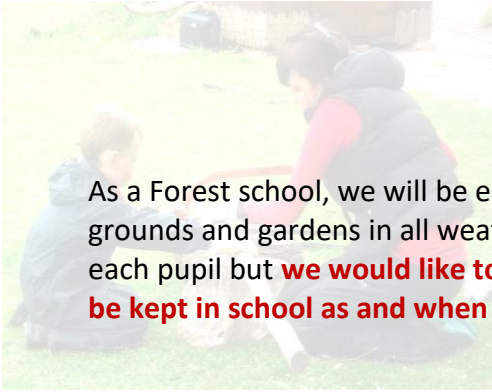
Snacks can form an important part of a balanced diet for young people.

We participate in the National Fruit Scheme - each morning, the fruit (or vegetable) item is delivered, to be shared at different points of the school day in class.

We provide milk for your child for the first year free of charge. Daily healthy snacks are also available for 20p or children can bring their own.

PLEASE BE AWARE

The school does not allow the consumption of snacks high in fat, salt or sugar at break-time, e.g. cereal/ fruit bars, crisps, sweets, chocolate.



FOREST SCHOOL

As a Forest school, we will be encouraging the children to explore and enjoy our grounds and gardens in all weathers. We will provide an all-in-one waterproof for each pupil but **we would like to ask parents/ carers to send a pair of wellies in, to be kept in school as and when needed.**

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- **We need a parent/carer to stay with his/her child for the first session;**
- If your child is absent, please phone to tell us why. Legally, our school registers must show who is absent and why;
- TOYS - It is safer to leave these at home as we cannot be responsible for toys. **Please do not allow your child to bring toys to school;**
- Help us to keep everyone safe:

- ✓ keep to paths and encourage brothers/sisters to walk not run;
- ✓ park pushchairs so paths and doorways are clear in case of fire;
- ✓ keep children off play equipment before and after school;

- **Things to do at home:**
 - Counting rhymes
 - Writing child's name
 - Hearing initial sounds - eye spy
 - Playing with 2D / 3D shapes
 - Nursery rhymes
 - Puppet shows/role play
 - Stories
 - Taking turn games
 - Lots and Lots of talking



Lastly...

- **Any questions or difficulties?**

Parents are welcome to come and visit and talk informally about their children on a daily basis. It is better to avoid the mornings if possible, as these are very busy times for staff as children arrive. Staff are usually available at the end of afternoon school or by appointment.